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DEPARTMENT FOR G/IWI

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: PHUM PREL KWMN KPAO

SUBJECT: AUSTRIA: NOMINATION FOR THE SECRETARY OF STATE'S  
AWARD FOR INTERNATIONAL WOMEN OF COURAGE

REF: STATE 12871

¶1. Per reftel request, post nominates Eva Kaufmann, a key  
staffer in the Austrian NGO LEFOE/IBF.

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Contact Information  
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¶2. Name: Eva Kaufmann  
Organization: LEFOE/IBF, Floragasse 7a/7, 1040 Vienna  
Telephone: 43 1 796 92 98  
Email: ibf@lefoe.at

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Justification  
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¶3. Eva Kaufmann works at LEFOE/IBF, the main NGO in Austria  
offering assistance to victims of trafficking. LEFOE/IBF  
provides consultation and information to trafficking victims,  
provides accommodation in emergency housing and psychological  
care, and assists victims in getting necessary documentation  
and social security. LEFOE/IBF assists victims by escorting  
them to interviews with law enforcement authorities and to  
court, providing legal representation, and visiting women  
held in detention prior to deportation. LEFOE/IBF also  
prepares victims for return and connects them with an advice  
center in their home countries.

Eva Kaufmann has been instrumental in organizing legal and  
psychological counseling to victims of trafficking, has given  
presentations in several Eastern European countries, and is  
working tirelessly in providing help to trafficking victims.  
LEFOE/IBF also assists in setting up shelters for women in  
Eastern European countries. Ms. Kaufmann is intensively  
involved in that work, and more generally with international  
networking on the issue of trafficking. Given the fact that  
Austria is a country of transit as well as destination of  
trafficking, and the fact that it borders several Eastern  
European countries, trafficking is an important issue in  
Austria.

¶4. Michael G. Spring is the officer in charge of women's  
issues at post. He may be contacted at 011 43 1 31339-2398  
or via E-Mail at mgspring@state.gov.

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